



Connecting with the “Not Interested Kid”

Description

The “Not Interested Kid” is probably the most common student in America. Most often these types of students don’t attend church; not because they have anything against God, Jesus, or the Bible, they would just rather be anywhere else. They are simply not interested.

Goal with the Not Interested Kid

Our goals with the not interested kids are identical to our goals with the no way kids. We want to **befriend** him, **listen** to him, and **try to earn his trust**. Once we build a relationship, we hope he’s willing to check things out by engaging in spiritual conversations, go to something where these conversations can happen or expose them to God’s truth. (RSC or a camp)

How would they describe themselves?

Most students would just say this about church, “It’s not for them.” If it works for someone else, fine, but they would rather be somewhere else. They would say that they’ve got better things to do than church.

Special Notes about Not Interested Kids

This is the most common student in America. We may not see many of these students in RSC because they would rather be anywhere but church. They may come into RSC because a friend invited them or a parent invited them, which is why it’s important for us to create a great experience for them! We want them to want to come back, otherwise, we may meet these students in the halls, at concerts or sporting events, or when we’re hanging out at the mall.

Good news is this: once they build a relationship with you and trust you, they’re willing to try anything once. Including going to RSC or even a camp.

How do you connect with Not Interested Kids

We approach Not Interested Kids in the same vein as No Way Kids. The good news is that it may be easier to strike up a conversation with a Not Interested Kid. But let’s be reminded - students don’t need to be argued with. They don’t need to be shown how theologically wrong they are. They need one thing from us: a caring relationship.

- Find venues for first contact.
 - o We will connect with some Not Interested Kids because parents may have forced them to come to RSC. But this is a small percentage.
 - o Others might come because a friend brought them from an overnight.
 - o There may be some at church services, hanging out in the lobby or café during a service.
 - o Most are on their turf: at sporting events, concerts, the mall.
 - o Best way I connect with these students, go to a school event that one of our current student invites us to. After the event, I make sure to tell the student how great a job they did, and if their friends are around I make a quick introduction. If they want to talk, great, but I never force anything to happen. Just be there for the opportunities. (Also a great way to connect with parents!)
- Initial Greeting
 - o Remember to be yourself!
 - o Be ready to answer questions.
 - Why are you here? I came to see my friend (Student's name) in the play. Who are you? What was your role? What are some fun things to do around here?
- Be ready to learn names.
 - o Once a student tells me their name, I try to use it as quick as possible in a conversation so that I can try to recall it.
- Be ready with break the ice questions.
 - o What's fun to do around here?
 - o What are some things you are into?
- Look for COMMON GROUND with a Not Interested Kid.
 - o What is something that you can connect with for this student? Sports? Games? TV show?
 - o What is one way that you can build a relationship around that common ground?
 - Play basketball with those guys followed by a soda? Video game night? Girl fingernail thing party?

Goals with the No Way and Not interested Kids....

- Learn about their cultures, attitudes, and trends.
- Find out where they like to hang out in their communities, what are some things they do for fun?
- Learn names and interests.
- Ask good questions and listen carefully.
- Find common ground.
- Pray that God would work in their hearts to help them become more open to him.
- At right time, invite them to next step. (Check out RSC, go to camp, go to an event, make a decision, etc.)